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FEB. 18, 1730.

R E M A R K S

F O R

SIMON Lord FRASER of LOVAT, on the Information for HUGH MACKENZIE, Esq; I. On the Argument from the Rights of the Family of LOVAT. II. On the general Point of Law. III. On the Instances raised in that Information.

THOUGH every Thing that is material in this Information, be sufficiently obviated or answered in that of the Pursuer, and in the Papers to which it refers; yet the Pursuer begs Leave to offer some few Remarks that occur upon perusing the Defender's Information itself.

The Defender sets forth what he calls, *The State of the Rights of the Family of Lovat*, concerning which the Pursuer begs Leave to refer to *the short State of the Argument, from the Investitures of the Lordship or Estate of the Family of Lovat*, formerly offered for him*, to which he shall add these further Remarks.

First, As to the Conclusions drawn by the Defender†, from the Rights of the Family, it will appear from the short State above mentioned, that there is no Evidence that the Family of *Lovat* was noble, in the proper Sense of that Word, in the Year 1416. Neither is it true, that by the Writings recited by the Defender, it appears, that the *whole Estate, and every the least*

* State of
Instances,
Decem. 23,
1729. p. 16,
§c.
† P. 7.

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Parcel of it, was, till the Year 1539, settled in Fee simple to the Heirs-general at Law. For most of these Parcels of Lands are taken simply *hæredibus*, though the Defender takes the Liberty to understand that, as if the Word *quibuscunque* were added in the Charters: And amongst all the Writs and Evidents referred to, or produced by him, there is not one which concerns the Estate of *Lovat* itself, from which the Title has been always taken; and the Pursuer challenges the Defender to produce one single ancient Charter of the *Lordship* or *Barony* of *Lovat* that is not granted in favour of the Heirs-male. If the Defender then, from these ancient Charters of certain Parcels of the Estate, thinks it proper to infer, as he does, in Page 42, *That the Dignity of Lovat, from the Beginning, was understood to be descendable to the Heirs in Law, otherwise it cannot be imagined, that the Estate would have stood so long devised after that manner, to give Occasion to the rending it from the Honours;* how will he answer the like Argument, when it is turned upon him, from the constant and unaltered Course of Succession to Heirs-male, in which the Estate stood, from the 1539, and downwards? And it is to be observed, that the Estate thus provided, was the Barony of *Lovat*, to which almost all the other Parcels of Lands formerly destined to Heirs whatsoever, or in general *hæredibus*, had been annexed and united by that Charter 1539. And if there is any Absurdity in supposing, that an Estate could be suffered to be descendable to the Daughters of a Family, instead of remoter Heirs-male succeeding to the Honours, it would be far more absurd to suppose it taken in a Way that might have carried it from Daughters enjoying the Honours, to remoter Heirs-male without the Honours.

There is yet another Argument from the Rights of the Family, which the Defender has furnished to the Pursuer, viz. P. 20. where he asserts, *That there are many Instances in which, though the Honours have come into a Family by Heirs-female, yet*

these have, by new Grants of the Earldom or Lordship to Heirs-male, been limited by the Crown, to the Exclusion of Females, and that the Descent of a Dignity by Law is governed not only by Patent, but by the Charter of a Lordship, or other dignified Barony. Tho' these are Propositions the Pursuer can by no Means admit to be universally true, yet he thinks it deserves to be noticed, how this Argument of the Defender's proceeds in Favour of the Pursuer, and totally destroys the Defender's own Claim; for supposing for once, that till the Year 1539, the whole Estate of the Family of *Lovat*, or the Castle and Lands of *Lovat*, as well as the rest, had stood provided to Heirs whatsoever, or even that the Honours had come into the Family by an Heir-Female (neither of which Things are true) yet according to the Defender, by the new Grant of the Lordship or dignified Barony to Heirs-male, by the Charter 1539, the Honours were limited by the Crown to Heirs-male, to the Exclusion of Females: For though the Defender calls upon the Pursuer to vouch by any Grant, that the Honours of *Lovat* were limited in that Matter; and admits, that no doubt the Defender then beboved to succumb; the Answer is extremely obvious, for the Defender surely means not an express Limitation of the Honours apart, but such as he himself asserts to be implied or contained in a Charter of the Lordship, or dignified Barony, to Heirs-male. Now, such Charter the Pursuer does shew, and the Defender admits, viz. that of the Barony of *Lovat*, which is granted by the Sovereign in the Year 1539, *Dilecto Consanguineo suo, Hugoni Domino Frazer de Lovat, & hæredibus masculis*.

It seems impossible to deny, that the Barony thus granted, is a *dignified Barony*, as much as any other Lord's Estate can be so, and in the Sense of the Defender; for it is that very Barony from which the Title of Dignity is taken, and, according to the Defender, had been enjoyed for above a Century before. If then *Hugh Lord Lovat* was, in the Year 1539, a
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Lord Baron, what was his *Barony*? was it any-other than the *Barony* of *Lovat* contained in this Charter? And is it possible to deny, that this was a *dignified Barony* (if any such there be) from which the Sovereign gives the Lord Baron his Title? wherefore, according to the Defender, we have by this Charter of the *dignified Barony*, the Descent of this Dignity of *Lovat* expressly limited to *Heirs-male*, not by an *Argument*, or a *Presumption* only, but *directly*, as if it were a *Patent*, containing the Honours alone, that was yet extant, and produced in Court; after which the Defender cannot be surpris'd, if the Lords should make it little Difficulty in giving the Cause against him, since *out of his own Mouth he is thus condemned*.

It was a very vain Distinction, which at the Debate was advanced, betwixt the Words *Dominium* and *Baronia*, as if the former of these only were proper to *dignified Baronies*, and that the latter signified no more than a *common Barony*, which hundreds of Gentlemen had. Slender indeed is this Refuge, upon which the whole Stress of the Defender's Cause is laid. For in Fact it is certain, and by many authentick * Vouchers can be proved, that these two Words, *Dominium* and *Baronia*, have been promiscuously used from the Time of our earliest Records to this Day, that the *Baronies* of simple Gentlemen are frequently called *Dominia*, and the *Dominia* of Lords are called *Baronies*; but according to the *Person* to whose Estate these Terms are applied, the Sense of these Words is to be determined. And would it not be more absurd to say, That these Gentlemen whose Estates are at this Day called *Dominia*, in the Charters from the Crown, are all *Peers* or *Lord Barons*, than it is to alledge, that *Lovat* is not a *Lordship*, because it is

* The Barony of *Houston* is called *Dominium*, so is the Barony of *Ranfurlie*, both in *Renfrew* Shire. The Barony of *Luss* in *Dumbarton* Shire, is called *Dominium*, and so is the Barony of *Swinton*, in *Berwick* Shire, &c. On the other Hand, the *Dominia* of Lords are called only *Baronies*, as the Estate and Lordships of *Hume*, *Semple*, *Lyle*, *Lovat*, &c.

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called a *Baroniz* in the Charter above-recited, to *Hugh Lord Frazer of Lovat*.

And if either of these two Words be more fit than the other, to be appropriated to the Estates of *Lords*, it is not *Dominium*, which signifies no more than *Property*, but that of *Baronia*, as derived from *Baro*, which is the ancient *nomen dignitatis*, and so continues to this Day; for in every Patent of Honour, either in *England* or *Scotland*, by which one was created a *Lord of Parliament*, he is nominated and created by the Sovereign a *Baron* of the respective Kingdoms, and by that Title the Peers of that Order now take their Place, on the *Baron's Bench* in the House of Lords of *Great-Britain*: And as it is certain, that the Term of *Baron* has always had different Significations, so the highest and most proper Sense of it, is to express the dignified Baronies, or those from which the *Titles* were taken of *Barons-Banrents*, or *Lords of Parliament*; And therefore the Pursuer vouches by this Charter, that the *Honours* of *Lovat* were limited to *Heirs-male*, as well as if the *Estate* of *Hugh Lord Lovat* had been called *Dominium*; and there is no Doubt but the Defender (according to his own Admission) must succumb in the present Question.

And this being the State of the Investitures of the Family of *Lovat*, from the Year 1539, downwards, it is certain, that nothing which has since happened, can alter the Destination of the Honours. For, *imo*, Even a Resignation of the Estate by one of the later Lords *Lovat* in the Hands of the Crown, for a new Investment in Favours of his Heirs whatsoever, could not then have that Effect, supposing that anciently it could, because, ever since the Reign of *James VI.* when the Custom began, that all the Grants of Honours from the Crown, were made by distinct *honorary Patents*, containing no other Subject than the Honours,
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it has never been *known*, or *understood*; that any Charter of an Estate, in whatever Manner devised, could have any Influence or Effect concerning the Honours of the Resigner; unless there was at the same Time an express Resignation of the Dignity itself, and a new Grant of that in like Manner from the Crown; and no Instance can be produced, at least since the Reign of *James VI.* where the Descent of Honours was altered in that Manner by a Charter, upon Resignation of an Estate, not *expressly mentioning the Honours* in the *Resignation* from the *Subject*, or in the new *Grant* from the *Sovereign*.

But, 2dly, There was never in Fact, any such Resignation made by a Lord *Lovat*, and a new Charter thereupon obtained; for the provisional Infestment granted in the Year 1666, by *Hugh Lord Lovat*, to Mrs. *Anne* his Daughter, was a base Infestment, holding of himself, and became void upon the Existence of a Son of his Body.

Neither did the next *Hugh Lord Fraser*, the Defender's Grandfather, ever himself resign the *Estate* or *Barony* of *Lovat* to the Crown, and obtain a new Charter to Heirs whatsoever. It is true, he became obliged in his Contract of Marriage in the Year 1685, to provide his Estate, Lands, and Baronies in that Manner; but he soon perceived his Error, and in the Year 1696, made a new Disposition of his Estate in Favours of his Uncle, the Pursuer's Father and his Heirs-male; so that the only Investitures of the Estate upon which the Defender can pretend to succeed, are those which proceeded upon *Apprisings*, or Incumbrances picked up for that Purpose, by the late *Prestonhal*, from Creditors of the Family; but these Investitures can as little carry the *Honour* and *Dignity* to the Defender, as it could have been carried or possesed by those Creditors or Apprisers themselves. And thus it appears, That as, according to the Defender's Argument, the *Charter* of the *dignified Barony* of *Lovat* in
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the 1539, did *settle* the Honours with the *Barony* itself, to *Heirs-male*, the Dignity must so continue limited to this Day, to the Exclusion of Females and their Issue; for by no Act of the Crown, since the Year 1539, has that former Settlement been altered, or a new *Descent* of the Honours to *Heirs whatsoever*, introduced.

The Pursuer has chosen to draw the above Remarks together in one View, though they relate to Passages dispersed through several Parts of the Defender's Information, because they all relate to the Charters and Writings of the Family; but he shall now proceed to set down a few short Remarks upon other Passages of the Information, in the Order they ly in it.

As to the Decreet referred to, it is to be observed, That all these great Men mentioned in it, were then really in the Ranks of Lords of Parliament, by Dignity of Peerage: For 'tis dated the 17th of *March*, 1430, according to our Computation, about three Years after the Act of 1427, whereby the small Barons and Freeholders are exempted from personal Attendance in Parliament, when the Creation of Lords Barons by Dignity commenced. And it cannot be pretended, That there was any of the *Domini* there mentioned, who, and their Successors, were not in the Rank and Quality of Lords of Parliament ever after; and for the Variation of the Stile, when the Distinction of Lords of Parliament from other Barons, was but newly begun, 'tis no great Wonder that they were not at first uniform in their Designations, since that depended mostly upon Clerks, who frequently varied in their Stiles from one another. Nor do we find that the Lords of Parliament are uniform in their Designations, till the subsequent Reign of King *James II.*

The first Proposition is agreed to, as to patrimonial Estates. The second Proposition may be true in some Sense, yet it is as true, that neither our Historians nor Lawyers have told us any where, That there is no Distinction

Remarks on
the Decreet of
Parliament
subjoined to
Page 3d.

Remarks on
the Propositions
contained
in the Defen-
der's Informa-
tion, P. 8.
post Medium.

tion to be made, or asserted, that the Succession in Dignities descends by the same Rules, and to the same Persons, that Succession in Lands and other patrimonial Estates in *Commercio* do descend. But on the contrary, they deliver their Opinions, as to the Reasons and Foundations of our Customary Rules of Succession, and as to the Steps and Degrees, by which they were introduced; and direct us to such Rules of our Determination, where our Customs are dark, as makes the Distinction which was unnecessary to be noticed, in the Days of our first Lawyers, as being *vulgo notum*, arise very clear in our Day, though the Course of Time, and few Occurrences of this Kind happening, have contributed to render the Point more capable of being disputed.

Remarks on
the Defender's
Proof of the
first Proposi-
tion, P. 9.

Succession amongst the *Jews*, or as the Defender has it, by the Divine Law, went upon extremely different Rules, (as all their Politicks did) from those we follow in *Scotland*; almost an equal Partition took Place amongst them; Primogeniture and all its Consequences obtain with us, which affects all our Constitution, and particularly the *Ratio decidendi* in Successions *ab intestato*, in so strong a Manner, That it is a Wonder to see an Authority brought from the one to the other. As to *Leslie*, *Chalmers* and *Innes*, and the Stories of the *Picts*, the Pursuer apprehends, close Arguments are not in great Abundance, where so extremely distant and uncertain Authorities are relied on.

The Pursuer apprehends, that the Passage of the learned *Craig* is intended by the Author, to prove quite the Reverse of what it is here adduced for, *viz.* That long before the Conquest of *England*, the feudal Law, that is, Male-succession, *ex provisione legis*, and Female-succession *ex provisione hominis*, took Place in *Scotland*.

As to the Books of *Regiam Majestatem*, the Pursuer apprehends, that these Passages adduced from it, relate to Succession

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cession in patrimonial Estates *in commercio* only ; and that it now here affirms, that Dignities of Peerage in *Scotland* descend by the same Rules as Estates. But whatever be in these Books, the Pursuer cannot admit them to be of undisputed Authority, since *Craig*, *L. 1. Tit. 8. P. 7.* and *Lord Stair*, *L. 1. Tit. 1. Par. 16.* and again, *L. 3. Tit. 4. Par. 27.* give their Opinions so strongly against their Authority. To conclude this Proposition, if the Defender understands it only of patrimonial Estates *in commercio*, which, by common Custom, are granted *hæredibus quibuscunque*, the Pursuer agrees with him in it, and it will not affect the present Question.

This Objection is stated and answered, as if the Pursuer had contended, that in our Days, and in the Days of *Lord Stair*, *Craig* and *Balfour*, Custom had not, by the Frequency of the Addition of the word *quibuscunque*, changed the natural and feudal Meaning of the Word *hæres*, without Addition: He has said no such Thing ; but insists, that the very Passage adduced from *Craig*, and the like Passage from *Lord Stair*, *L. 3. Tit. 4. § 20, 21, 22.* makes it very plain, that the Feudal Law was our proper Law in Matters of Succession, and consequently that with us, the original proper Signification of the Word *hæres* was Heirs-male, till Custom, by the Frequency of adding the Word *quibuscunque*, changed that Signification of it. The Pursuer further admits, That with relation to Settlements of all Estates, where the Addition of *quibuscunque* has been common, the Word *hæres* has changed its Signification from Heirs-male to Heirs-general; but as the Reason of the Change lies upon the Frequency of the Word *quibuscunque*, he apprehends, that if there are any Estates in the Grants or Settlements of which that Addition of the Word *quibuscunque* has never been common, but very rarely or never used, that Alteration of the Signification of the Word *hæres* cannot take Place as to these Estates: That were to extend the Effect beyond the Cause; whereas the Pursuer apprehends, that the very abstaining from the Use of the Word *quibuscunque*, as to any particular Spe-

Remarks on
the Objection
stated in the
Defender's
Information,
Page 10th,
prope finem,
and his An-
swers to it,
P. 11 and 21.

cies of feudal Rights, demonstrates, that the Alteration introduced by the Word *quibuscunque*, was not to affect them.

As to the Instance of the Grant of the Constabulary to Sir *Gilbert Hay*, by King *Robert the Bruce*, 'tis to him & *hæredibus*; and this was so far understood of Heirs-male, by the Earls of *Errol* themselves, that we have in this most noble Family, two several Instances, where an Heir-male excluded an Heir of Line, mentioned by the Lord *Lovat* in his Instances in the higher Dignity, page 9th. And the noble Lady, the Countess of *Errol*, now possesses the Honours of the Family, not by Virtue of the Grant by King *Robert* to Sir *Gilbert* her Ancestor, & *hæredibus suis*, but in Virtue of a Resignation, upon which a Charter was expedite under the Greal Seal, in the 1674, by *Gilbert* Earl of *Errol*, in Favours of Sir *John Hay* of *Killour* her Father, of his Title, Honour, Dignity, and Precedency of Earl of *Errol*, together with the heritable Constabulary of *Scotland*; so that it was very just, that the Countess of *Errol* had her Right sustained and affirmed by the Court of Claims at the last Coronation, and that the Lady's Deputy had his due Place assigned him.

As to the Instance adduced of *Strathern*; the Charter is granted by King *Robert II.* to Earl *David* his Son, & *hæredibus suis*. For a full Answer to this, the Pursuer refers to his printed Answer to the Instance of *Strathern*, whence it will appear, that by the Lawyers, the *jurisperiti*, as *Buchanan* says, *ex archivis*, as Sir *John Scot* says, the Earldom of *Strathern*, though granted to Earl *David*, & *hæredibus*, was constructed as a Male-fie.

But to put this Point out of all Dispute, we have a solemn Decree *in foro, partibus comparentibus*, of the Lords of Council and Session, in the 1502, whereby a Service of *John* Lord *Somervel*, as Heir to his Father *William Somervel*, is reduced and declared null, on this precise Point, that the Inquest had found the deceased *William Somervel*, to have been
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the last vest and seized of the Half of the Lands of *Gilmar-ton*, it being of Verity, that the said Infestment had proceeded upon a Charter from *Malice* Earl of *Monteith* (as Earl of *Strathern*) and that the said Lands were Part of the Earldom of *Strathern*, to which the said *Malice* had no Right, either in Property or Superiority; and *Alexander* then Earl of *Monteith*, Heir of Line to the said *Malice* his Grandfire, and by him to *David* Earl of *Strathern*, is in the said Decreet marked present, and confessing, that his Grandfire *Malice* Earl of *Monteith*, had no Right, either in Property or Superiority, to the said Earldom of *Strathern*. This is a Decision so directly in Point, not only as to the Earldom of *Strathern*, but even as to the antient Meaning and Import of the Word *hæres*, without the Addition of the Word *quibuscunque*, that the Pursuer hopes, it will leave no Place for further Dispute about it. The Voucher of this is a Confirmation of the said Decreet under the Great Seal, wherein it is narrated at full Length.

The above Remarks, particularly on the second Proposition itself, do sufficiently clear, how far the Defender's Demonstration of it affects the present Argument. *Balfour* and *Craig* wrote of Points, that had been the Subject of Litigation in their Time, especially such wherein Custom had innovated the feudal Rules; but as that had then made no Impression upon Succession in Dignities, and no Body had thought of crouding them in with patrimonial Estates, it was too early for the Distinction to occur. As to the Passages from Lord *Stair* and Sir *George Mackenzie*, they plainly relate to Cases where Succession in Dignities fall to Females, *ex provisione hominis*; or in one Case, *ex provisione legis*, viz. upon the total Failure of Heirs-male descended of the first invested. As to the Revocations of our Princes, *Craig*, L. 2. *Dieg.* 16. *Pag.* 4 and 5. has given a clear Account of the Reason on which they proceeded, which fully shows that they had Relation only to patrimonial

Remarks on
the Defender's
Proof of the
2d Proposi-
tion, Page
13 and 14.

nial Estates, but noways to Dignities; his Words are, *In iis revocationibus, ea verba, quibus princeps conscientiae scrupum, aut quia contra leges ea facta dicat, pretendit, puto male inserta, & pro non insertis habenda, &c.* And afterwards, *Quis enim nescit grave præjudicium principum commodis fieri, quando custodia mulieris ad eum devolvitur, quam si custodia siue warda fœminæ fuisset; nam fœmina hæres, si in wardam cadit, secum etiam totum hæreditatem plerumque trahit, cum maritaggi hæredis masculi plerumque non magna sit æstimatio.* So that the first Conclusion is without Foundation, and the second only holds with Respect to patrimonial Estates, but noways to Dignities.

Remarks on
the Defender's
Proof of his 3d
Proposition on
Page 14 and
15.

As to *Leslie, Chalmers, the Piets, and Regiam Majestatem*, the Pursuer refers to what is above, and shall, rather than take up much Time, yield all that can be brought from these Authorities, to the Defender. But, as to the Instance of the Constabulary in the Family of *Galloway*, he says, *1mo*, That it came first into that Family, upon the Failure of Heirs-male. *2do*, It was not hereditary, but at the Disposal of the Crown, for it did not go in the direct lineal Succession, but to such Relations of the Family as the Crown thought fit. See the Pursuer's Answer, Page 30. As to what relates to the Family of *Carrick*, Page 16, see the Answer to *Carrick* in the Pursuer's Memorial in the Dignity of Earls; and we shall add, that when the Lady succeeded to the Estate of the Earldom of *Carrick*, there was, *1mo*, No Heir-male existing of the first Grantee. And, *2do*, It is plain, there was a new Creation to the Husband, *Robert Bruce* himself, who was *Comes de Carrick*, who must have been invested, since the Son would otherwise have been Earl, without the Father's Resignation, on the Moment of his Mother's Decease; whereas the Dignity came to the Son, upon an After-resignation of it by his Father.

As to what the Defender says, from the History of *England*, the Pursuer has no where insisted, That the Rules
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of Succession to Dignities in *England*, are the same with these in *Scotland*; on the contrary, he apprehends it is plain from many Arguments, and particularly from *Craig*, L. 1. *Dieg.* 7. and 8. that the Body of the *English* Law is originally *Saxon*, and that there is but a faint and imperfect Mixture of the Feudal Law, introduced by the *Normans* to it; and more particularly the Pursuer has shown in his own Information, that *William* the Conqueror followed the Rules of the *Saxon* Succession in Dignities, in his Concessions of the Earldoms of *Northumberland* and *Leicester*, &c. whereas the Lands of *Scotland* are originally and properly feudal, as *Craig* has it, L. 1. *Dieg.* 4. *Hoc jus feudale bujus regni proprium & peculiare esse, ad quod in rebus dubiis recurrendum, &c.* And again, L. 1. *Dieg.* 8 § 10. *Ex ejus scaturigine & fontibus, omne jus quo hodie utimur in foro defluerit.* And a little after, *Apud æquos rerum æstimatores obtinebo nullum aliud esse jus proprium in materia successionis hæreditariæ, &c.*

The Pursuer does not remember of his having made any such Distinction between the Descent of Offices, and other noble Dignities, as the Defender mentions in the End of Page 15. And for Answer to what is said concerning the Earldom of *Carrick*, for removing that imaginary Distinction, the Pursuer refers to what is above, concerning that noble Family. And as to what is said from Sir *James Dalrymple's* Collections, the Pursuer insists, that he has advanced nothing but what is very consistent with the Instances pointed at from that learned Author; he has no where alledged, that a Female never had a Peerage in her Person, far less that a Person of great Distinction, marrying the Daughter of a Peer, and who enjoyed his Estate by Succession, was never created a Peer by the Title and Dignity of her Ancestors, which appears to have been the Case of *Bruce* the first Earl of *Carrick*; on the contrary, the Pursuer agrees, that there are many Instances of Females enjoying the Dignity of Peerage;

Peerage; but insists that these were either after a total Failure of Heirs-male of the first invested, or by particular Provision in the first Investiture, *contra commune jus successionis*, or more commonly by Creation with their Husbands, at, or soon after their Marriage; and the Pursuer apprehends, that all the following Instances of Females enjoying the Dignity of Peerage, mentioned by the Defender, are in one or other of these Cases.

Page 17.

What relates to the Family of *Mar*, does not affect the present Question; for when those Ladies succeeded, the Male-Line was quite extinct; we shall therefore only remark, That 'tis said, without any Authority, That King *James II.* founded his Claim to the Earldom of *Mar*, upon a Right of Blood, as being descended of a Daughter of the Family by King *Robert I.*'s Queen, who was the Earl of *Mar*'s Daughter. *Fordun's Continuator* tells us upon what Occasion he claimed it, in these Words, *Obiit Alexander Comes de Mar, Anno 1437, & quia Bastardus erat, Rex sibi successit, quamvis de jure Domini Erskine & Lyle succedere debuissent.* And after that the Lord *Erskine* was restored by the Queen and Parliament in the 1565.

As to what is asserted relating to the Earldom of *Fife*, the Pursuer judges the Instance to be fully answered, in what is said in his Answers to the Defender's Condescendence in the Rank of Earls, *Page 15.*

The Instance of *Strathern*, which is here again repeated by the Defender, is fully answered in what is above, and in his said Answers, *Page 27, 28, and 29.*

To what relates to the Case of the old Earl of *Buchan*, the Pursuer hopes he has given a full and satisfactory Reply in his said printed Answers, in *Page 11 and 12*, and shall only add, That as to the Reduction and Declarator of Precedency, raised at the Instance of the Countess of *Buchan*, against the Earls of *Glencairn* and *Eglinton* in the 1628, this was Three Years after she and the Earl her Husband had acquired Right to the Honour and Dignities which were enjoyed by the former Earls of

of *Buchan*, upon a Resignation, in which it is remarkable, that the Heir-male concurred; Whereby, without all Question, the Lady had a very just Title to the Precedency she claimed, in regard that *James* Earl of *Buchan* her Ancestor, was in the Quality of an Earl in the Reign of King *James* II. whereas neither the Earls of *Glencairn* nor *Eglinton* were raised to their respective Dignities, till the Reign of King *James* IV.

As to what relates to the Family of *Athole*, the same is Page 21. fully answered in the Pursuer's said Answers, Page 6, 7, and 8. And as to the Family of *Athole* that is now possessor of that Dignity, it was given by a new Patent to *John* Earl of *Tullybardine*; for 'tis plain the Dignity of the former Earl of *Athole*, who died in the Year 1594, failed with himself; and his eldest Daughter, the Countess of *Tullybardine*, was never Countess of *Athole*, nor is she ever designed otherwise than *Eldest Daughter*, and one of the four *Heretrixes* of *John* *umquhile* Earl of *Athole*. So that her Son, after her Decease, being created Earl of *Athole*, was not by any Right he had by Succession to the Title, but merely by the Grace and Favour of the King, who was pleased to honour him with that Dignity. So that it is somewhat surprizing to find this Act of a Prerogative the Crown has, in disposing of Dignities, (which was plainly exercised, to supply, by a new Creation, with an ancient Rank, the Defect of an Heir by a Female's Right) called a Judgment of the Crown, in Favour of such Heir: For, to suppose the Heir by a Female had the Right of Succession *ex lege*, is directly to say, That this Act of the Crown (or Judgment, if the Defender pleases to call it so) was superfluous and unnecessary.

As to what is alledged in the Family of *Sutherland*, there Page 21. is nothing like Courtesy appearing in the Husbands of Heiresses of Earldoms, ever since we had Records, without a new Erection; and this of *Adam Gordon* must be in the uniform Way of others, that is, he had been created by Cincture and

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Belting, as the Manner was ; for it would be very strange to imagine, that if Courtesy in a Dignity was a common and usual Thing in that Age, and yet that it should have wore out so intirely in the next ; that no Husband of a Countess in this last Age, nor in our own Time, pretends to any such Thing ; for though the Dignity of the illustrious Family of *Errol*, though it be now in the Person of a noble Lady, by special Provision, yet the Gentleman her Husband does not claim the Courtesy.

Remarks upon what the Defender says in Page 23d, 24th, and 25th, concerning the Alteration of our Constitution in the Reign of *James I.* and downwards.

The Defender seems extremely averse to explain the true Nature of the Alteration introduced into the Parliament of *Scotland*, by the Acts here referred to, and the Difference between that and what happened in *England* in the Time of King *John*. The Pursuer therefore craves Leave here to state that Matter in a few Words, and to explain in what Point both the Nations agreed, and wherein they differed. The Alteration in both Kingdoms was this, That an hereditary Seat in Parliament should in neither Kingdom be held as a Right, Privilege or Burden (call it which you will) necessarily flowing from, and annexed to Lands held *in capite* of the Crown, and that all the Privilege to be held in Virtue of such Tenure, should be the Right of electing, or being elected to represent a Shire or County in Parliament ; but that the Crown should still have a Power, as the Fountain of Honour, to raise such of the said antient Barons by Tenure to the Dignity of Peers, either by Writ or Patent, as the Crown pleased, and that those so dignified should have an hereditary Seat in Parliament ; and in this both Nations agreed.

They differed indeed in this, That all the *Barones Majores* in *England*, were at once adopted into that Dignity in the Reign of King *John*, and the Crown continued from thence to the Time of *Richard II.* to exercise its Prerogative of granting Dignities of Peerage, and calling additional Barons in the several Ranks of Nobility, by special

special Writ ; and from the Middle of *Richard* the II's Time began the Custom of granting such Dignities, entitling those who were dignified, to an hereditary Seat in Parliament, by Patents of Honour, which will appear to have been uniformly granted and limited to Heirs-male, a few special Patents excepted.

On the other Hand, the Alteration was introduced into *Scotland* by slow Degrees, and was not perfected till several Ages after it was first begun ; so that the hereditary Seat in Parliament *virtute tenuræ*, continued to be enjoyed for several Generations, *viz.* from the Reign of *James* I. to the Middle of *James* VI. while at the same Time the Crown was bestowing hereditary Dignities of Peerage, like those of *England*, by raising the Heads of great Families to the Dignity of Peerage, till at last, after a considerable Number of such Peers by Dignity were erected, all those who had enjoyed an hereditary Seat in Parliament *virtute tenuræ*, were at once reduced to have no other Right than that of electing, or being elected ; so that the Defender suffers himself to be as much misled, when he draws a Consequence from the Succession to a Seat in Parliament *virtute tenuræ*, to Succession in Dignity, as he does when he infers Succession in Dignities, from Succession in patrimonial Estates *in commercio*, to which a Seat in Parliament was anciently annexed, if they held *in capite* of the Crown : But as Dignities never were patrimonial, nor *in commercio*, Succession in them retained the original Nature of Feudal Rights, which neither were assignable, nor passed by Succession to Heirs-general.

As to the Instances of *Carlyle*, we know not to what Purpose so long a Deduction of the Lord *Carlyle*'s Case is set down, when 'tis so fully set forth in all the Defender's Papers before, That *Michael* Lord *Carlyle* did dispoise his Estate to his second Son, in the 1575, which was confirmed under the Great Seal, is a Fact cannot be refused by the

Remarks on
the Defend-
er's Instances
on the Rank
of Lords
Barons.
Page 25.

Defender ; That when the Competition commenced betwixt the Heir-male and the Heir of Line, great Hardships were put upon the Heir-male by the Relations of the Heir of Line, are plain and obvious ; That the Heir-male may have waved his Right to the Dignity during the Competition, we allow ; but deny that ever the Heir of Line obtained or used the Title of *Lady Carlyle* all that while. Indeed, when the Right to the Estate came to be vested in her Person, she called herself *Lady Carlyle* and *Tortborald*, but that was as Proprietor of the Estate of *Carlyle*, but we deny that ever the Peerage of the Family was in her, otherwise why would Mr. *Douglas* her Husband have taken a new Creation to be Lord *Tortborald* in the 1609, which gave him a younger Rank and different Title ?

Page 29.

As to what is said anent the Heir-male of the Family of *Harris*, and of the great Age he must have been, because he was Heir-male of that Family, we are at a Loss to see the Consequence ; for the Pursuer does not concern himself, what was the precise Relation in Blood that Heir-male had to the Lord *Harris*, nor whether he was Son, Grandson or Great Grandson of the Family ; all that the Lord *Lovat* says, is, That he might be Heir-male of that Family, and yet not Heir-male of any of the Lords of *Harris*, and so could not have any Right to the Dignity, not being descended of the first Grantee ; For, though he be called the Heir-male to the Lord *Harris*, he is not called Nephew to him, or Cousin-german, but Heir-male in General, and might be, as it is very probable he was, a very distant Male Relation, after several successive Descents from a collateral Branch of the Family.

As to *Salton*, 'tis agreed on by those who are most conversant in Matters of Antiquity, the Lord *Salton* possesses the Honour by a new Patent, and an Act of Parliament con-

confirming that Patent; beside, for what appears to the Pursuer, there was no Heir-Male of the Family, which might be a Motive to induce the King to give the Honour to the Heir of Line, on the Failure of the Males, with the former Precedency, which is a Practice the Crown has done in many Instances, as well as in the Family of *Philorth*.

As to the Case of *Oliphant*, the Pursuer is at a Loss to understand the learned Gentleman's Argument for asserting, in the Family of *Oliphant*, That the Estate was never erected into a Lordship; the Lords of *Oliphant* were plainly Lords of Parliament, in the Time of King *James III.* and in the Investitures of their Estate, the Lordship of *Oliphant* is called *Baronia*, which was the ordinary Designation Lordships had; for *Dominium* no more imports a Peerage of a Lord Baron, or carries the Honour along with it, than it does of a Dukedom or Marquisate; for we can venture to say, That most of all the Estates of Lords Barons, after their Creations, and being in the Rank of Lords, were erected only into *Baronias*; not a Word of *Dominium* was in the Families of *Hume*, *Leslie*, *Semple*, &c.

The Pursuer no where asserts, That Sir *James Douglas* the Husband of the Heir of Line got the Title of Lord and Lady *Mordingtoun*, with the Rank and Precedency of the ancient Lord *Oliphant*, but says quite the contrary, viz. that the Lord *Oliphant*, the Heir-Male got his own Precedency in the same Rank and Degree he stood in, by Virtue of the Decreet of Ranking in the 1606, as appears by a Copy of it, set down by Sir *George Mackenzie*, in his *Heraldry and Precedency*, Page 47. compared with another List of the Nobility insert by Sir *George*, in his *Precedency*, Page 51. in both which Lists *Oliphant* is placed immediately after *Elphinston*, and before *Lovat*. As for the Heir-Female's Husband getting a new Patent afterward to be Lord *Mordingtoun*, in the 1641, the Pursuer has no Concern

cern with it, or with the Precedency he got above his Creation; but he is informed, that it was the Place and Rank of the Peerage of *Torthorold*, that extinguished a little before, which the King bestowed on Sir *James Douglas*, when he was created Lord *Mordingtoun*; for, this plainly appears from the Ranking of the Nobility; in 1606, and the later Rolls, where *Mordingtoun* is directly placed where *Carlyle* was; so that the Reasoning upon this Case, being upon a Mistake in Fact, all the Superstructure built upon that Foundation falls to the Ground.

Page 36.

As to the Instance of *Burleigh*, we refer to the Answer given thereto already, in the Pursuer's Condescendence; and we shall only add, That 'tis evident the Dignity must have been by special Patent, and Provision to *Michael* the first Lord *Burleigh*, and his adopted Son *Robert Arnot* of *Newton*, otherwise he could never have been Lord *Burleigh*. And that no Pretence of Controversy may remain, we find, That tho' his Lady died in the 1638, he enjoyed the Title, Dignity and Honour of Lord *Burleigh*, for fourteen Years thereafter, till his Death, in the 1652; and all this while, no Claim or Pretence is laid to the Honour, by *John* Master of *Burleigh* his Son, who according to the Defender's Reasoning, had Right to the Dignity, the very Moment of his Mother's Decease.

Remark on
Page 36.

The Pursuer is somewhat surpris'd at the Transition made from the Patent granted to *Broomfleit* Lord *Vesey*, in the 27th Year of *Henry* the VI. of *England*, and the Heir-male of his Body, to the Creation of the Earl of *Bothwell*, in Parliament, by *James* the IV. of *Scotland*; where the Word *Hæredes*, without the Addition of *quibuscunque*, is used. The Pursuer has often repeated, That the Succession in Dignities of Peerage in *England*, goes upon different Principles, and is regulated by Laws of different Origins and Natures from those in *Scotland*: So that there is no Parity of Argument from the one to the other. But as to the
Case

Case of *Bothwel*, the Pursuer craves Leave to remark, *imo*, That the Record mentioned confirms what he has always asserted, That a Charter erecting Lands into a *Comitatum* or *Dominium*, or *Baroniam*, does not make an Earl or a Lord of Parliament; but the Dignity is conferred, as the Words of the Record are, *per præcinctionem gladii, ut moris est*. The Pursuer shall not here repeat the many Instances which he has elsewhere given to prove this Point, but shall refer to what is contained concerning the Earldom of *Murray*, in his additional Condescendence, from Page 15th, to Page 21.

2do, It is observable, that the Defender here argues from the Charter granted a few Days before the Erection of the Lordships of *Bothwel* and *Crighton*, *hæredibus quibuscunque*, as if that necessarily determined the Succession in the Dignity granted a few Days after, *hæredibus*, without Addition to *Heirs-general*: The Pursuer confesses, if that had been a Charter of all the Lands belonging to the Family, and that the Succession had not been expressed at all in the Creation, it would have afforded a strong presumptive Argument, that the Dignity was intended to descend to Heirs-general, with the Estate, but when the Lands of *Hails*, and many other Lands, which were the ancient Family-Estate, are not comprehended in that Charter, and *hæredibus quibuscunque* are the Words determining the Succession in the Lands, and *hæredes* only determine the Succession in the Dignity; the Pursuer apprehends, the presumptive Argument fails, and nothing can be concluded, but that a Daughter might have carried off the Lordships of *Crighton* and *Bothwel*, if a more remote Heir-male had succeeded to the Dignity.

But when the Defender argues in this Way, 'tis hoped he will not refuse, that there is some Weight in the Argument brought by the Pursuer, from the Charters taken by Lords Barons, of their whole Lands, almost universally to Heirs-male, upon their being created Lords of Parliament, in Cases
where

where there are no Words at all expressing to what Heirs the Dignity is to descend.

Remarks on
Page 38, 39,
and 40.

The Pursuer cannot but agree with the Defender, in thinking it unnecessary to insist on the Laws of other Nations; none of our Lawyers have directed us to the Laws of *Normandy*, nor indeed to the Laws of any of the many Kingdoms, mentioned at the Bottom of the Page, from *Perezius*, for our Conduct in doubtful Cases of Succession; the Pursuer therefore shall follow the Defender, to what he says in Page 39 and 40, concerning the Feudal Law, to which our greatest Lawyers do very positively refer us; as to which the Pursuer apprehends, That whatever Differences of Opinion happened between *Gerardus Niger* and *Obertus de Orto*, they and all other Feudists happened to agree perfectly as to Male Succession; and because the Defender has made Choice of *Struvius's Syntagma juris feudalis*, for proving this Diversity he says there is, as to Male Succession, the Pursuer craves Leave to set down the Words of that Author, to which he refers, *viz. Requiritur, num in successore feudali, ut sit habilis ad præstanda servitia unde excludantur, 1. Fæminæ, tam defuncti filiæ, quam ejus agnatæ a latere, & per consequens, etiam illi qui per illum fæmineum sexum sunt ulterius progeniti, nisi feudum fuerit fæmineum, vel pacto ad fæminas transitorium, in ejusmodi feudis deficientibus, vel agnatis masculis, fæminæ, earumque progenies ad successionem admittuntur, in qua tamen progenie ibidem primum masculi, ac his non existentibus, fæminæ succedunt.* From which Passage, the Pursuer desires it may be observed, that he is far from screwing his Argument to the Extent of the ancient Feudal Law; on the contrary, in the whole Course of his Reasoning, he admits, that all Feudal Rights, and particularly Dignities in this Kingdom, are, as to Succession, of the Nature of *feuda fæminea*. As to the Exception subjoined, concerning Succession in *feudo franco vel conditionato*, the Pursuer also agrees with

(23)

with him in that; but before the Defender can have the Benefit of that Exception, he must prove, that the feudal Right he contends for, is *feudum francum* or *conditio- natum*; for Craig, L. 1. Tit. 10. § 4. *in medio*, tells us, *Quod feudum nunquam dicatur francum, nisi exprimatur, nam cum feudum francum non sit feudum proprium, semper præsumitur pro proprio, nisi improprium probetur ex tenore concessionis.* And to show how justly the Defender trans- lates *feudum francum*, by *Ward*, the Pursuer begs leave to subjoin some few Things our learned Feudist Craig says of the one and the other Species of feudal Rights. *Feudum francum*, says he, *Dict. § 4. improprium feudum est, sive non rectum, neque cum definitione feudi in naturalibus qua- litatibus convenire potest, nam a servitiis omnibus est immu- ne.* But of *Feudum wardæ*, he says, *cod. Tit. § 19. Tale feudum cum feudi definitione, quam præmisimus, & cum na- turalibus ejus qualitatibus omnibus convenit, itaque recte feudi proprii nomini censeretur debet, in utroque enim tenens, sec vassalus ad servitia tenetur, sed honesta; immo & in hoc convenit maxime, quod semper præsumptio sit pro hoc feudo, nisi aliud ex tenore investituræ constiterit.* So that there are truly no two Things that go under the Name of feudal Rights, more widely different, than *Feudum francum* and *Ward*, which the Defender seems to reckon synony- mous. For Answer to the Query in the End of Page 40. the Pursuer refers to his Information, where he shows, that whatever was the Case of patrimonial Estates, as to the Right of Primogeniture, yet he has no Occasion, in this Case of a Dignity, to enter into that Question, since it appears from the Books of the Feus, L. 2. Tit. 55. that so early as the Days of *Barbarossa*, that Dignities did not divide.

The Pursuer begs Leave to say, the Defender seems to have laid the Objection, and chosen a Law from the *Pandects* for his own Purpose. The Pursuer never laid his Objection to

Remark on
the Objections
stated by the
Defender,
Female Page 41.

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Female Succession, on the Supposition that the Fair Sex was incapable of enjoying Dignities; on the contrary, he apprehends the Law rightly supposes, that their Merits will often procure them Dignities in their own Persons, or at least *ex provisione hominis*: But that it being fitter for Children to take their Rank and Condition in the World from their Father's, than from their Mother's Family, the Law has made *Honores, Munera, and Dignitates* descendable only by the Males. The Pursuer therefore cannot but observe, that the Law which the Defender has chosen to mention, does not at all relate to Succession; he therefore thinks it necessary to mention *L. 13. ff. De Muneribus & Honoribus*, which does relate to Succession, in these Words, *Vacatio, itemque immunitas, quæ liberis & posteris alicujus data est, ad eos duntaxat pertinet, qui ejus familiæ sunt*. And *L. 1. § 2. ff. De Jure Immunitatis*, in these Words, *Sed & generi, posterisque datæ, custodiæque ad eos qui ex fæminis nati sunt, non pertinent*. As these Laws are not founded on any supposed Incapacity of Females enjoying Dignities, but on the Impropriety of Children's following the Condition of their Mother, and not of their Father, the Force of them does not seem to be taken off by the Defender's Answer: As to what the Defender subjoins to his Answer to this Objection in Page 42. *viz. That the Estates were erected into Earldoms and Lordships, &c.* the Pursuer must again refer the Defender to the hypothetick Argument from the Charter of the Lordship of *Lovat* in the Year 1539, settling the Succession of the Family on Heirs-male; for he can see no Reason why that Argument should be good to carry the Succession to the Heirs-male, in so many Families as the Defender has applied it to, and yet be of no Force as to the Family of *Lovat*.

Remark on
the Objection
stated by the
Defender, in
Page 42. in
fine, and An-
swer in Page
34.

The Pursuer apprehends this Objection is likewise imperfectly stated, for the Pursuer does not lay the Weight of the Presumption upon the Tenor of Patents alone; But, *imo*, Upon the usual Custom of Descent in Dignities, both before and

and after Patents came in Use. 2^{do}, Upon the Feudal Nature of our Law of Succession in *Scotland*. 3^{tio}, He conjoins this Circumstance, in which the Defender agrees with him, viz. That *James I.* took his Model of distinguishing Seats in Parliament by Dignities, from these which were anciently more extensive by Tenor, from *England*, where Dignities by Patent had been in Use for many Years, viz. From the Middle of *Richard II.* and during the Reigns of *Henry IV.* *Henry V.* and Part of *Henry VI.*'s Reigns, all limited to Heirs-male, because, perhaps, by the Laws of *England*, they would have been descendable to Heirs-general, and from thence conjoined with other Circumstances; the Pursuer apprehends it may be inferred, that *James I.* and his Successors would have taken the same Care he had seen taken in *England*, to limit the Descent of Dignities to Heirs-male by express Provision, if the general Law in *Scotland* had not directed them of itself in that Course; but as these are presumptive Arguments, the Pursuer lays no farther Strength upon them, than as they concur with other more direct and legal Proofs, to demonstrate that Male Succession is the legal Succession in Dignities, by the Laws and Customs in *Scotland*.

The Defender is pleased to mention another Consideration, taken from the Situation of this Family, which likewise deserves a due Attention: As to what the Defender calls the Humour and Conceits of *Highland* Clans, who are fond of being led and governed by a Chief, who is capable of bearing Arms. Whatever Reason there be for giving that Choice the Name of Humour and Conceit, and however it may be abated in later Times, and likely to wear out, yet it is certain, that in former Times, much later than the Original of this Peerage of *Lovat*, the *Highland* Clans were capable of being of great Service to the Crown; and as Interest among them recommended the Heads of Families to the Dignity of Peerage, so this Presumption concurs with many others, viz. That what influenced the Choice of the first invested, would likewise have an

Remark on
P. 43. & 44.

Influence, in directing the Course of Succession, to descend on those who would have the like Interest, that is, on Heirs-male.

Remarks on
Page 44.

The Pursuer is at a Loss to know, where these great Possessions in the South are, that belonged to the Family of *Lovat*, which the Defender pretends were as valuable as his Possessions in the *Highlands*, that were settled upon Heirs whatsoever. The Pursuer can venture to say, that tho' that Family had vast great Possessions in the South of *Scotland* in ancient Times, he is sure, that his Ancestors, since the Reign of King *David II.* had not one Foot-breadth of Estate be-south *Forth*: And if he means the Lands of *Golford* in the North, they are no Barony, but a Parcel of Lands, that are given to the House of *Lovat* by the Earl of *Ross*; and of all which King *James I.* as Earl of *Ross*, gives a Charter to *Hugh Fraser* of *Lovat*, to him & *hæredibus suis*, by his Charter under the Great Seal in the Records *anno 1430.*

The Defender has very much obliged the Pursuer, by printing a Genealogy of the Family, from *Hugh Lord Lovat*, his Grandfather, who died in the Year 1646, which shows, that he is but the second Degree removed from the common Ancestor, in the Male Line, whereas the Defender is but the fifth, descended from an Heir-female, and of another Sirname.

